



# Town of Braintree

## Department of Elder Affairs

February, 2022

71 Cleveland Avenue, Braintree, MA 02184

Hours: 8:30 AM– 4:30 PM

*“Live, Learn, Laugh and Be Happy”*

Mayor Charles Kokoros

Sharmila Biswas: Director

Mary Howland: Outreach Coordinator

Therese Jarrett: Services Coordinator

PHONE: 781-848-1963

Michelle Metro:

Volunteer Coordinator

Frank DeFrancesco: Transportation Services

John O'Reilly: Building Custodian

FAX: 781-848-2835

WEBSITE: [www.townofbraintreegov.org](http://www.townofbraintreegov.org)

For everyone's safety, we encourage you to wear masks for all Events and Activities

Please note you may sign up for all activities on or after Tuesday, February, 1 after 9:30 am

*Greetings Everyone,*

**Happy Valentines to all of you!** We send you our love and warm wishes and always remember, we are just a phone call away.

Let me take the opportunity to congratulate Mr. Henry Joyce, loved by all and known to us as Hank. On January 13th, 2021, Mayor Kokoros honored him with the “Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Peacemaker Award.” According to the Mayor, Hank has served his community both as an elected official and a community volunteer and is one of the most deserving recipient of this award. At Elder Affairs, Hank serves as the Chairman of the our Advisory Board and we could not have asked for a more compassionate and an understanding person in that role. Hank is a familiar face at Elder Affairs, he attends many of our programs and often stops by to just say “Hi.” We have many conversations and every time we speak, I get a sense of his passion and his sentiment to help serve the older adults of Braintree. I could keep writing, but there are not enough pages in this newsletter. So, I am just going to say that we all adore Hank and we are so proud and honored to have him as a part of Elder Affairs. Happy Valentine's Day Hank! We all love you! Wish you good health and peace.

As I write this newsletter, it is the second week of January. We had quite a snow storm and today is bitterly cold. By the time this newsletter reaches you, I am sure, we will have the white stuff linger around covering our yard and our driveways. As much as it is pretty to look at, it is also time to be careful and make sure that your walkways and stairs are free of snow and ice. If you cannot do it on your own, please make plans for snow removal before it is too late. Keep yourself hydrated and if you use space heaters, please do not leave it on and unattended. Every year, space heaters are the lead cause of dreadful fires.

As you are aware, the Corona Virus loves our company and keeps lingering in different mutated forms. Our building is open and we are having different activities and programs. To keep you protected, we keep practicing all the safety protocols and we would like to recommend that everyone wear a mask, when they are in the building. Nothing compares to the joy of seeing you walk through our doors and we want keep it that way. So please protect yourself and use caution. Once again, Happy Valentines Day!

*Sharmila*

Putting you  
in control...



Securing today  
and tomorrow

We added or updated the following information available from our COVID-19 web page.  
Conducting Business with Social Security During the Pandemic:

How do I submit documents to Social Security?

Am I eligible for an in-person appointment during the COVID-19 pandemic?

How can I get a new or replacement Social Security number card?

I am a non-citizen and Social Security says they need to see my DHS lawful presence documents to pay my benefits. Should I mail them to my local office?

I filed an application for benefits. What evidence do I need to provide to begin receiving payments and how can I provide SSA the information while walk-in services are limited?

I just changed my name and need to change it with SSA. What documents do I need to submit with my SSN application to get a replacement card with my new name?

What if I need to apply for a replacement SSN card and my only option is to submit my application and identity documentation? Since I need my driver's license (DL) to drive, is there an alternative to mailing my DL, State Identification card or passport?

Will SSA extend our deadlines to provide documentation and other information?

Social Security Numbers and Cards:

How do I submit documents to Social Security?

How can I get a new or replacement Social Security number card?

I just changed my name and need to change it with SSA. What documents do I need to submit with my SSN application to get a replacement card with my new name?

What if I need to apply for a replacement SSN card and my only option is to submit my application and identity documentation? Since I need my driver's license (DL) to drive, is there an alternative to mailing my DL, State Identification card or passport?

## Alzheimer's Support

Tuesday, February, 22nd

4 PM

Please join us for an informal meeting

Please call 781-848-1963 to let us know if you are coming.

# Book Club Book

**"The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out a Window and Disappeared"**  
**February 18th @ 10:30 AM**



## Shopping Shuttle Schedule

**Reservations:** please call 781-848-1963; 48 hours in advance.

Pick-up time between: 9:30 to 10:00 AM

Return time between: 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Tuesday , February 1— Shaw's

Tuesday , February 8—Roche Bros

Tuesday , February 15—Stop & Shop

Tuesday , February 22—Shaw's

Special Shopping Trip: February 11th,  
Walmart

- **Outreach:**  
Information & Referral  
Advocacy  
Friendly Visitor & Library Express

- **Transportation:** please call to reserve  
Medical Van Rides  
Senior Center Activity Rides  
Shopping Shuttles

- **Recreation:**  
Monthly Lunches  
Social Activities  
Special Events & Educational Seminars  
Day Trips  
Health and Fitness Classes

- **Support Groups:**  
Low Vision Meetings  
Alzheimer's Support Meetings  
Bereavement Support Group

- **TRIAD:** senior safety

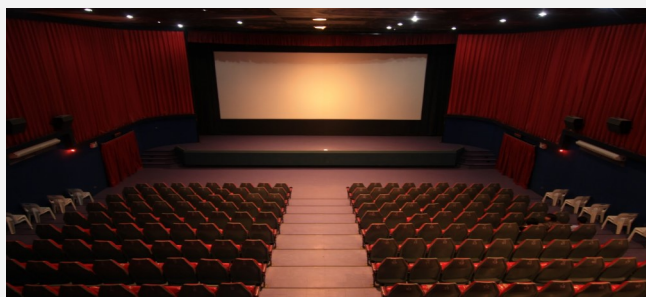
- **SHINE:** health insurance counseling; **please call for an appointment**

- **Ask the lawyer:** free consultations;  
**please call for an appointment**

- **Medical Equipment Loans:**  
wheelchairs, walkers, canes, shower seats  
and commodes; **please call ahead.**

## Fun Movie Friday

**Date: Every Friday**  
**Time: 1:00 PM**  
**Where: 71 Cleveland Ave**  
**.50 cents per person**  
**Movies all month long**



## Canasta

**We are happy to add Canasta to our regularly scheduled activities. Interested? Then come on down.**

**Every Wednesday, at 10:30 AM**

**Any questions please call Michelle at 781-848-1963.**





# Holiday Fun at 71 Cleveland Ave



## Braintree Recycling

To see if an article is recyclable, go to [www.RecycleSmartMA.org](http://www.RecycleSmartMA.org) and type in article. You will be told whether it can go into recycling or not.

All services and information: [www.braintreema.gov/recycling/74 Pond St./April 23,2022](http://www.braintreema.gov/recycling/74%20Pond%20St./April%2023,2022) 9AM-Noon

Next Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off is April 30, 2022....74Pond St. 9AM-Noon

Electronics Drop-off sponsored by Braintree Rotary is April 23, 2022....74 Pond St. 9AM-Noon

Compost Site Information/Highway Office 781-794-8955

Spring Yard Waste Collection Curbside begins the week of April 18, 2022

Recycling Center: Mon/Tue/Thur/Fri/Sat 7:15AM-2:45PM  
(Closed Wed/Sun/Holidays/Severe Weather)

Trash & Recycling Office 781-794-8088

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN: HANK JOYCE

The Holiday Season is over and I hope everyone had a wonderful time. The Joyce family made it through but it took three different times to get the whole family together.

Well, the Patriots lost in the first playoff game, so there will not be a Super Bowl party in Boston this year. It was an enjoyable season and they prove they can still play good football without Tom Brady. Tampa Bay Buccaneers won their first game and it would be nice to see Tom Brady win another Super Bowl. Now we can watch the Boston Bruins and Celtics who are playing well and maybe they will make the playoffs.

We have some events planned for February. There will be a Valentine's Day Flower Arranging class and at the end of the month Tom Bruhl will entertain us. Hopefully, this virus will leave us soon and allow more people to attend our events. We can't wait to have a full house.

We haven't had a hard winter yet, but it can get slippery in the mornings. Please stay safe and healthy.....*Hank*




### Valentines Day Flower Arranging Class



**Back by Popular Demand.....**

**Bring home your own Fresh Flower Creation or give them to a Special Someone.**

**Date: Wednesday, February 9  
Please call 781-848-1963 to sign up  
\$5.00 pp  
Time: 1:00 PM**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	<b>1</b> Shopping Shuttle-See Page 4 10:00 am– Balance with Bob Cobbett 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10:00 –Low vision group returns 10:00-12:00 Rummikub 12:30—Cribbage	<b>2</b> 9:30am– Cardio and flexibility with Mary 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10:30-Canasta 12:00 Pool Players 1:00 Bingo
<b>7</b> 9:30am– Cardio and flexibility with Mary 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10:30 –No Walking group 12:00 Pool Players	<b>8</b> Shopping Shuttle-See Page 4 10:00 am– Balance with Bob Cobbett 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10:00-12:00 Rummikub 12:30—Cribbage	<b>9</b> 9:30am– Cardio and flexibility with Mary 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10:30 AM– Canasta 11:00 AM-Asian Outreach 12:00 Pool Players <b>1:00 Flower Arrangement Class</b>
<b>14</b> 9:30am– Cardio and flexibility with Mary 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10:30 –No Walking group 12:00 Pool Players	<b>15</b> Shopping Shuttle-See Page 4 10:00 am– Balance with Bob Cobbett 10:00-12 Rummikub 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 12:30 Cribbage	<b>16</b> 9:30am– Cardio and flexibility with Mary 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10:30-Canasta 11:00 AM Asian Outreach 12:00 Pool Players 1:00 Bingo
<b>21 Happy Presidents Day- CLOSED</b> 	<b>22</b> Shopping Shuttle-See Page 4 10:00 am– Balance with Bob Cobbett 10:00-12 Rummikub 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 12:30 Cribbage 4:00– Alzheimer's Support Meeting	<b>23</b> 9:30 am-Cardio and Flex with Mary 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10:30 AM– Canasta 11:00 AM Asian Outreach 12:00 Pool Players
<b>28</b> 9:30am– Cardio and flexibility with Mary 10:00 AM Current Events 10am-Elder Affair programs on BCAM 12:00 Pool Players		 <b>FEBRUARY</b>



## THURSDAY

## FRIDAY

<b>3</b> 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10AM-Mahjong 11:30-Quilting 1:00 PM Knitting (both indoor and out door weather permitting)	<b>4</b> 9:20am– Tai Chi with Peggy 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 11:30 am Chair Yoga with Sue 12:00 Pool Players 1:00 PM -Fun Movie Friday- “Being the Ricardo’s”
<b>10</b> 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10AM-Mahjong 10:00 AM Photography 11:30-Quilting 1:00 PM Knitting (both indoor and out door weather permitting)	<b>11</b> Special Shopping Trip-9:30-Walmart 9:20am– Tai Chi with Peggy 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 11:30-Chair Yoga with Sue 12:00 Pool Players 1:00 Fun Movie Friday “West Side Story”
<b>17</b> 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10AM-Mahjong 11:30– Quilting 1:00 Knitting Weather permitting both in and outdoors	<b>18</b> 9:20am– Tai Chi with Peggy 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10:30 Book Club-”The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out a Window and Disappeared” 11:30– Chair Yoga with Sue 12:00 Pool Players 12:30 Ask the Lawyer 1:00 PM Fun Movie Friday “Home Again” 2:00 PM Board Meeting
<b>24</b> 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 10AM-Mahjong 10:00– Photography <b>1:00– Musical Performance by Tom Bruhl</b>	<b>25</b> 9:20am– Tai Chi with Peggy 10am-Elder Affairs programs on BCAM 11:30– Chair Yoga with Sue 12:00 Pool Players 12:30 Ask the Lawyer 1:00 PM– No Movie



# Lunar New Year 2022



## LUNAR NEW YEAR 2022 YEAR OF THE TIGER



Many Asian cultures celebrate the Year of the Tiger on February 1, 2022. The Tiger has traits of leadership, respect and acting assertively as well as being courageous, outspoken, prone to taking risks and energetic.

The Office of Braintree Elder Affairs wishes you a healthy and peaceful Lunar New Year.



平安健康。心想事成。新年進步。





# “Being the Ricardo’s”

*Movie of the Month...*



**Date:** February 4th, **Time:** 1:00 P.M., **Place:** 71 Cleveland Ave

During one production week of “I Love Lucy” — from Monday table read through Friday audience taping — Lucille Ball (Nicole Kidman) and Desi Arnaz (Javier Bardem) face a series of personal and professional crises that threaten their show, their careers and their marriage, in writer-director Aaron Sorkin’s behind-the-scenes drama.

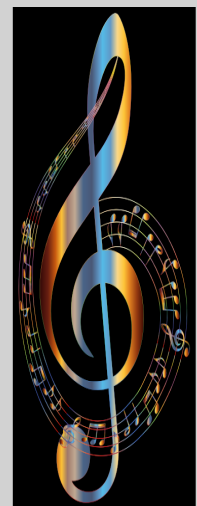
## Post Valentine’s Day Musical Event

**Date:** Thursday, February 24

**Time:** 1:00 pm

**Please call 781-848-1963 to sign up**

**Come enjoy the many sounds of Tom Bruhl!**



# AARP Tax Aide Program 2021

Once again this year the AARP Aide Foundation will be providing volunteers trained to assist residents, with a particular focus on those 60 and older, in filing their federal and state [MA only] income tax returns at the Braintree Elder Affairs. The volunteers will be there to assist you in completing your return.

**Beginning January 18, 2022, please call 781-848-1963 to make your appointment.** Tax Aide Volunteers will begin processing tax returns from February 7th through April 6th.

Appointments will be available on Mondays and Wednesdays starting at 9AM. They will be scheduled for 1 hour. We request that you arrive **15 minutes prior to your appointment** and please be aware that your appointment may take over 90 minutes. A client facilitator will review your "completed intake sheet." The sheet will be mailed to you when you make your appointment.

**Everyone MUST complete a new intake sheet even if you did one last year. This is an IRS requirement for this program to continue and we cannot waive it. We will provide assistance if you find the intake sheet difficult, but it must be complete or we will not do your return.**

On account of COVID, we will be preparing taxes the same way as last year, wearing masks and social distancing. When you arrive, will be entering through the side door, **not** the front door. The client facilitator will take your information and go through your tax papers with you and then you will return to your car while the tax preparer does your taxes. When they are finished, someone will come to your car and go over your return and get your signature. **You will need to stay in the parking area till we are finished, AARP Volunteers will not take responsibility if you leave, your Tax Volunteer will shred your papers.**

## The Forms you will need are

**Intake and Interview sheet (mailed to you) W2, Social Security, pensions [1099R], interest and dividends, capital gains (1099B, 2 transactions), other 1099's, and W2G.**

**For Circuit Breaker (real estate taxes and water bills paid.) Health insurance forms and Blank check for direct deposit.**

Clients DO NOT NEED TO FILE if income is below these limits, unless filing for Circuit Breaker or had federal taxes taken out.

SINGLE	under 65	12,550	over 65	14,250	
MFJ	under 65 both	25,100	one over 65	26,450	both over 65, 27,800
MFS	any age	5			
HOH	under 65	18,800	over 65	20,500	
QW	under 65	25,100	over 65	26,450	

# Dr. Martin Luther King Peacemaker Award

Pictures of the Award night.

We are all very proud of you

Henry (Hank) Joyce

*Congratulations!*



The former recipients of the Peace Award.

With Ann Tolland and Sunny Shaw. The threesome.





# Outreach

## Social Security Award Letter

You should have received your Social Security benefit award letter in the mail in December 2021. This letter informs you what your monthly benefit amount will be for 2022. Please keep this award letter in a safe place. You will need it if you apply for any form of assistance.

## Free Evening Legal Clinics

The Bar Association of Norfolk County is sponsoring Free Evening Legal Clinics as a public service to the community. An attorney will be available for a one on one consultation.

The Free Evening Legal Clinics will be held at 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings at the following Courts:

Dedham District Court - February 1, 2022

Quincy District Court - April 5, 2022

Dedham District Court - June 7, 2022

Quincy District Court - August 9, 2022

Dedham District Court - October 4, 2022

For further information please contact the Bar Association of Norfolk County at 617-471-9693 or [admin@norfolkbarassn.org](mailto:admin@norfolkbarassn.org). Check us out on the web at [www.Norfolkbarassn.org](http://www.Norfolkbarassn.org)



## Get Your Free Rapid Covid-19 Tests

Please be aware that the present administration is offering free rapid tests to all residents in the United States. Every household in the US is eligible to order four free at home Covid19 tests. The tests are completely free and will usually ship in 7 to 12 days.

Please visit [www.covidtests.gov](http://www.covidtests.gov) to submit an order and learn more.



Braintree Department of Elder Affairs  
71 Cleveland Avenue  
Braintree, MA 02184

Place  
Stamp  
Here

**Braintree Dept. of Elder Affairs ~ 2021 Board Members**

**Henry (Hank) Joyce, Chairman of the Board**

**Wayne Gilbert, Vice Chairman**  
**Ann Moore, Secretary**

**Lucille Barton**  
**Tim Burke**  
**Leland Dingee**

**Jane Fogg**  
**Connie Mattina**  
**June Newman**

***American Heart Association Month***



**AMERICAN  
HEART  
MONTH**

The Braintree Department of Elder Affairs' newsletters are available at Town Hall, Thayer Public Library, banks, supermarkets, pharmacies, churches and some medical facilities. Please view online: [www.townofbraintreegov.org](http://www.townofbraintreegov.org).  
Donations to The Braintree Department of Elder Affairs are greatly appreciated. Thank you to all who support Elder Affairs.